

Office Action Mailed 11/07/2005
Amendment Dated March 6, 2006
Examiner Wing F. Chan
Serial No. 10/716,972
Docket: TEL 001 P2 Cl.5

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 48 (Cancelled)

49. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a conferencing environment comprising a first suite and at least one second suite ~~in a room~~, said method comprises the steps of:

providing ~~modular~~ a first plurality of components comprising a first plurality of walls, at least one of said first plurality of walls having at least one a first display associated therewith, said at least one first display being capable of displaying a first substantially life-size image of at least one remote person situated at a remote location;

assembling said ~~modular~~ first plurality of components at a first location to define the said first suite ~~within the room~~;

situating a first plurality of audio-visual components in said first suite; ~~so that a video conference may be conducted during which said plurality of audio-visual components generate a substantially life-size image of said at least one remote~~

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~~participant on said display so that persons positioned in front of said display will see a substantially life size image of said at least one remote participant displayed on the display;~~

providing a second plurality of components comprising a second plurality of walls, at least one of said second plurality of walls having at least one second display associated therewith, said at least one second display being capable of displaying a second substantially life-size image of at least one person situated in said first suite;

assembling said second plurality of components at said remote location to define said at least one second suite;

situating a second plurality of audio-visual components in said least one second suite;

enabling said first suite to be connected to said at least one second suite so that (i) said first display at said first suite displays said first substantially life-size image of said at least one remote person situated at said remote location so that said at least one person who views said first display at said first suite will see said first substantially life-size image, and (ii) said second display at said second suite displays said second substantially life-size image of said at least one person situated in said first suite on said second display so that said at least one remote person who views said second display will see said second substantially life-size image of said at least one person displayed on said second display;

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50. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the steps step-of:

decorating at least one of said first suite or suite said at least one second suite with a plurality of furnishings;

mounting at least one of said first or second plurality of audio-visual components in said first or said at least one second suites, respectively, on said plurality of furnishings so that it is not visible to a participant during a video conference.

51. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 50 wherein said at least one of said first or second plurality of audio-visual components each comprises a microphone associated with a table situated in front of said first or second display, respectively.

52. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 50 wherein said at least one of said first or second plurality of audio-visual components comprises at least one speaker.

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53. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

making said at least one of said first or second plurality of modular components from at least one of the following: gypsum, clay-based material, ceramic, paper, cardboard, foam, wood, or styrofoam.

54. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said ~~suite~~ comprises a height of about 8 feet, 6 inches. first and second plurality of components are modular.

55. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 54 wherein said first and second displays are electronic. ~~room comprises dimensions of about 20 feet x 20 feet by 9 feet.~~

56. (Cancelled)

57. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said at least one of said first or second plurality of modular components comprises either a dropped or sunken ceiling.

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58. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 4956 wherein said at least one of said first or second plurality of walls define a non-rectangular polygonal shape.

59. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 58 wherein said polygonal shape comprises an octagonal.

60. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 5556 wherein ~~at least two of said plurality of walls comprise different widths.~~ said first and second displays are LCD displays.

61. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 5556 wherein said first suite and said at least one second suite plurality of furnishings each comprise a table situated in ~~proximate modular components comprise a plurality of walls.~~ front of said first and second displays, respectively.

62. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing participants in a video conference in said first suite or said at least one second suite to be situated a predetermined distance from said first display or second display, respectively. ~~display.~~

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63. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 62 wherein said predetermined distance is about 5 feet, 6 inches.

64. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

decorating said said first suite and said at least one second suite substantially identically ~~suite with a plurality of subjects to facilitate defining a predetermined sensory setting.~~

65. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 4964 wherein said decorating step comprises the step of:

decorating said first suite and said at least one second suite differently ~~suite with a table and at least one of a table decoration, a pillar decoration, a wall decoration to enhance the predetermined sensory setting.~~

66. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 4964 wherein said ~~predetermined sensory setting~~ first suite and said at least one second suite each define ~~defines~~ at least one of a business setting, an education setting, a seminar setting, a home environment, a religious setting, or a celebration setting.

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67. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 65 wherein said

decorating step comprises the step of:

defining said first suite or said at least one second suite with at least one of a
~~predetermined sensory setting defines at least one of~~ business setting, an education
setting, a seminar setting, a home environment, a religious setting, or a celebration
setting.

68. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 67 wherein each of said
first and second plurality of audio-visual components comprises at least one audio
component and at least one camera, said method further comprising ~~comprises the~~
steps ~~step of:~~

decorating each of said first suite and said at least one second suite ~~said suite~~
with a plurality of furnishings;

mounting said at least one of said first or said second audio-visual
components relative to said plurality of furnishings so that it is not visible during a
video conference, and mounting said at least one camera in each of said first suite
and said at least one second suite so that it is visible during said video conference, ~~at~~
~~least one of said plurality of audio-visual components on said plurality of furnishings~~
~~so that it is not visible to a participant during a video conference.~~

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69. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 68 wherein each of said first and second plurality of audio-visual ~~at least one of said audio-visual components~~ comprises a microphone associated with a table situated in said first suite or said at least one second suite, respectively.

70. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 68 wherein said first and said second plurality of audio-visual ~~at least one of said audio-visual components~~ comprises at least one speaker.

71. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 67 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

making said plurality of ~~modular~~ components from at least one of the following: gypsum, clay-based material, ceramic, paper, cardboard, foam, wood, or styrofoam.

72. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 67 wherein said first suite and said at least one second suite each suite comprises ~~comprise~~ a height of about 8 feet, 6 inches.

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73. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 72 wherein said ~~room~~
comprises at least one of said first suite or said at least one second suite comprises
dimensions of about 20 feet x 20 feet by 9 feet.

74. (Cancelled)

75. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 67 wherein said at least
one of said first suite or said at least one second suite plurality of modular
~~components~~ comprises either a dropped or sunken ceiling.

76. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim ~~75~~74 wherein said at least
one of said first suite or said at least one second suite plurality of walls defineddefines
a non-rectangular polygonal shape.

77. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 76 wherein said
polygonal shape comprises an octagonal.

78. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim ~~75~~74 wherein at least two
of said first suite or said at least one second suite plurality of walls
comprises~~comprise~~ different widths.

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79. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 6867 wherein said plurality of furnishings comprise a table situated in proximate modular components comprise a plurality of walls.

80. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 67 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing participants in a video conference at said first suite to be situated a predetermined distance from said first display.

81. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 8049 wherein said predetermined distance is about 5 feet, 6 inches.

82. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

decorating said suite with a plurality of subjects to facilitate defining a predetermined sensory setting.

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83. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said first plurality of audio-visual components comprises a plurality of cameras, said method further comprising the steps of:

decorating said first suite with a plurality of furnishings comprising a plurality of chairs to be used by ~~participants~~ said at least one person at the said first suite;

situating said plurality of chairs such that each of said at least one person ~~participant~~ seated in said plurality of chairs are located in the field of view of only one of said plurality of cameras.

84. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said plurality of audio-visual components comprises at least one camera, said method further comprising the steps of:

decorating said at least one second suite with a plurality of furnishings comprising at least one chair to be used by at least one ~~participant~~ remote person at the said at least one second suite;

situating said at least one chair such that said at least one ~~participant~~ remote person faces said at least one camera when seated on said at least one chair.

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85. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 8449 wherein said method further comprises the ~~steps~~step of:

decorating said at least one second suite with a plurality of furnishings comprising at least one chair to be used by at least one remote person ~~participant~~-at the ~~said at least one second~~ suite;

situating said at least one chair such that said at least one ~~participant~~remote person faces said display when seated on said at least one chair.

86. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 5084 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

decorating said at least one second suite with a plurality of furnishings comprising at least one chair to be used by at least one remote person ~~participant~~-at the ~~said at least one second~~ suite;

situating said at least one chair such that said at least one remote person~~participant~~ faces said display when seated on said at least one chair.

87. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 49 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

providing a third audio visual component in a ceiling as-of at least one of said first suite or said at least one second suite. ~~plurality of modular components.~~